Library Research Skills

92881 Foundations of Perioperative Nursing

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Finding Books from a Reading List

Your subject outline lists a number of books which are recommended reading. These are just a few examples to indicate how to find them in the library catalogue.


To find how you can obtain them, search any words from each title in the library catalogue: http://find.lib.uts.edu.au/

Once you find the item you’re looking for in the catalogue, see the list of holdings information – Location, Call number and Availability. The call number is where you’ll find it on the shelf. Sometimes titles may be available online – in this case there is a Google Preview.
Getting Books from the Library

If a book you want is not available on the shelf at your campus library (i.e., is out on loan, or is at another campus), you may request it by clicking “Request Item” towards the bottom of the screen. This takes you to MyLibrary.

*Handy tip!*: When available, you can also check the “Google Preview” to see whether the book is likely to have the information you are looking for and therefore worth requesting...

Books held in the Library Retrieval System (LRS)

Books held in the LRS appear in the catalogue like this:

To request the book, just click on the blue ‘Request from LRS’ button. You will need to log in using your UTS student number and password, then select which campus you wish the item to be delivered to. You will receive an email and/or SMS when it is available for collection from the Open Reserve/Holds area.

During semester, delivery times at the City Campus are approximately every two hours, while delivery to KC is the next business day. More information about the LRS is available at http://www.lib.uts.edu.au/borrow/lrs-requests.

**MyLibrary** is part of the Library Catalogue and allows you to:

- Check and renew items you have on loan
- Request items which are on loan to other people
- Request items which are only available from other campuses
- Check items you have requested (on hold)

You will be notified by email when items you have requested are available for pick up. Please note that the library sends all notices to your UTS webmail. If you prefer to use another email address, you can redirect your UTS webmail to your preferred address. (Recommended)

**BONUS+** is a lending scheme which allows you to access a wider range of books than which are available at UTS library. If a title you want is not available at UTS library at all, find the “BONUS+” link at the top right corner of the screen. You can then check whether it is available for loan at one of the other Bonus libraries. See the Bonus page for more information.

**Interlibrary Loans/Article Reach**: If you can’t find a book or journal article you want via the library catalogue (or Bonus), it may mean that UTS library doesn’t have it. In that case, request an InterLibrary Loan / ArticleReach:

https://www.lib.uts.edu.au/borrow/borrowing-other-libraries
Finding Journal Articles from a Reading List

The following are some journal article citations which are similar to those you might see in a reference list:


Identify the journal title within each citation. (Hint: these are usually in italics)

Go to the Library catalogue and type in the Journal title, for example, AORN journal – the journal title in the first, second and third citations above. Identify whether this is available in print or online – or both? Many journals we have are available via several online services. *Make sure you check what the library holds within each service as they can vary quite a lot!*

It’s important to check the **date range** – to ensure your article falls within it:

![AORN journal citation](image)

Click on the online database title and follow the links until you reach your article. The key to finding it is to note the Volume and issue numbers and page numbers.

Alternatively try finding via the library’s “*Find Articles*” service … you can type in the article’s title to find it!
Journal Databases – Brief Overview

There are many journal databases available through the library which can help you find journal articles on a particular topic. The following are just a few recommended databases for Health students – but are by no means the only databases you should use. Databases vary a lot in their coverage and strength on particular topics. eg, some are stronger on surgical and clinical topics while others are stronger on social and educational topics. Not every database will be suitable for every search. Use “Find Databases” to help you locate the database you want. You can also save your own list of favourite databases in “My Databases”

**Cinahl (Cumulative Index to Nursing & Allied Health Literature)** is a specialist Nursing database. Cinahl is an authoritative academic database and is compiled by a range of specialist researchers in US particularly, but also from around the world. It has approximately 15% of articles available in full text. However, many of the other articles may still be available through other sources via the library via SFX. Vendor or provider is EBSCO.

**Medline (OVID or Ebsco)** is a specialist medical database which is very clinical in nature. It is similar to Cinahl only it is designed for a wider range of medical professionals. It has approximately 15% of articles in full text, it has SFX links and like PsycInfo is provided by OVID.

**PUBMED** is a free version of databases which include Medline and is a useful alternative.

**Academic Search Complete (Ebsco)** is a very strong multidisciplinary database – useful for articles when your topic has multiple disciplined topics – eg legal aspects of hospital care. Also, to pick up articles on your topic from fringe journals which might not be indexed in CINAHL or Medline.

**Wiley Interscience and ScienceDirect (Elsevier)** are two different multidisciplinary databases for particular academic publishers. Both of which include many useful academic health resources.

**SCOPUS and Web of Science** are both a multidisciplinary database which are often used for citation analysis.

**Google Scholar** is a subset of Google (and freely available) and while it is not recommended as your primary database, it can be useful for a range of reasons: May help to fill in gaps, good for verifying incorrect citations, sources articles and books. It is possible to use library links (access via the library databases list) and you can export citations to Endnote and Refworks (although quality of reference information can vary greatly and you can’t export the abstracts like you can from other databases). Log into Google Scholar via the library’s “Find Databases” page to get access to the UTS Library Links.

When searching for journal articles on a particular topic, it is recommended that you try at least three different databases. While many of the search results may be common to more than one database it is likely you will also find some fresh results each time because different databases index different journals.
Choosing the right database and developing a search strategy

UTS Library subscribes to many different databases and the ones listed on the previous page are most of the major ones you are likely to use. However, you need not limit yourself to these especially if you need to undertake a comprehensive literature review for your research.

There are many different types of databases:

- general and subject specific
- academic and commercial

General or multidisciplinary databases include Academic Search Premier, Expanded Academic ASAP, Science Direct, Wiley InterScience. These are often aggregated databases or publishers’ sites – that is, the means for making their content available online. Level of indexing is varied and especially the aggregated databases may include a wider variety of literature.

Subject specific databases such as PsycINFO, CINAHL, Medline and Maternity and Infant Care are usually compiled and maintained by academic research organisations (eg APA, National Library of Medicine) and their interface may be merely provided by a commercial vendor (eg OVID or Ebsco). These databases often have good quality indexing and journals represented are usually peer reviewed.

No single database will have all the articles on your topic and the number articles you can retrieve from each may also depend on the search terms you choose. Finding the right terms might be as simple as picking out major words from your topic – or PICO sentence. But sometimes there may be other words which are used for the same concepts (eg: DVT, deep vein thrombosis, venous thrombosis, blood clot etc). This is important to consider especially when searching in databases without a controlled thesaurus (like PsycINFO, CINAHL and Medline all do) as different articles may well use different words for the same concept.

**Suggested topic:** Patient safety in the Operating Room (OR)

Identify the keywords (underlined above) then try to think of similar or related words which might also locate useful information for your assignment. What are different ways they can be described in journal articles. For instance, is usage different in different countries?? Consider using a thesaurus or subject specific dictionary. (Many of these are online)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient safety</th>
<th>Operating Room</th>
<th>Caring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical errors - Prevention</td>
<td>Perioperative</td>
<td>Nursing Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverse event - prevention</td>
<td>Operating theatre</td>
<td>Nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical mistakes - prevention</td>
<td>Postoperative</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When there is a controlled thesaurus, the hard work of bringing those articles with the various terms for the same concept together is largely done for you. Each article is indexed with the major **subject terms or headings** (sometimes also called **Descriptors**) which are chosen from a thesaurus. This ensures all articles on a topic should have a common subject heading.
Worked Example 1 – CINAHL (Ebsco)

Before you start your search in a database, spend some time looking at your assessment topic. Underline or write down the key concepts you need to find. This will form the basis of what you search – or look for – in the database. Each concept will be searched for separately and then combined.

**Search Topic:** Patient safety in the Operating Room (OR)

Go to the library home page: [http://www.lib.uts.edu.au/](http://www.lib.uts.edu.au/) Click on “Find Databases”

Select “Health” in the left box in the Databases finding tool, then select “Top Health Databases” from the resulting subheadings.

“CINAHL” will be one of the databases in the resulting list.

Once you’re in the database, ensure that “Suggest Subject Terms” is ticked and type in the first term then hit “Search”…

**General rules:** Select the heading/s which best describes what you’re looking for. Only select more than one if you’re happy for them to be ‘bundled’ together. Click on the “Scope” to see more information about the term. This comes up with the following screen:
When you select “Patient Safety” the list of subheadings appear and the “Search Database” button turns green:

“Patient Safety” is very broad and can cover many particular issues relating to safety of patients generally. But it might be useful to specifically search for some of those particular things… and use the subheading “Prevention and Control” with them…. For example: Adverse event…

Simply tick the box next to the heading and click on “Search”

If you click on the linked heading itself it will take you to the Thesaurus tree – which is interesting if you want to see where the heading fits in with the rest of the Thesaurus, but on most occasions you won’t want to see this!
Health care errors, instrument retention... you might be able to think of more??

Search for each of them in the same way and you might come up with a search history like this:

Select all of them (tick the boxes) and then select “Search with OR”

We are now ready to add our next concept...we could try “Perioperative Nursing”. This also maps to “Perioperative Care” – as these are synonymous enough, select both....
Combine synonymous sets by selecting and “Search with OR”

Combine each resulting set by selecting and “Search with AND”

We have over 900 articles… which is WAY more than we need.

A few things we can do:

- Add another concept – to make the search more specific
- Use the Refine Results options down the left hand column (eg: date, source type etc)
- Select “Show More” (immediately below the date slider) to see more limits, such as publication type, age groups, research articles, special interest (Perioperative care)
You can also create your own list of relevant results by adding articles you want for your project to the “Folder”. You can do this by clicking on the little blue folder symbol at the right side of each article citation. Once you have finished going through your list, click on the folder symbol at the top of the page to see a list of just your selected articles.

You can then email or export your articles to EndNote or Refworks to help manage your articles.

If you also Sign In and create your own account, you will be able to save your search and go back to work on it later.

Scroll through the results and try to identify articles which might be relevant for what you are looking for. Sometimes a full text or PDF link will appear in the list. If that’s the case you can simply open it.

To see if we have the full text of anything in the list, click on “Check SFX for availability”. The resulting pop-up screen will indicate if there are any other options for full text available in other databases available through the library. Click on the link and another screen will pop up and should take you directly to the article in the new database. If there are no “Full text” options appearing, you may need to request it on Interlibrary Loan/ArticleReach (or find another article).
Worked Example 2: Medline (OVID)

Search Topic: Anaesthetic theory

Go back to the “Find databases” tool. There are lots of options for how you can access the databases you want to use. Particularly useful is the “My Databases” option. It’s very easy to add your favourite databases to your own list for future convenience. Select Medline.

Advanced Search is the default and try searching the same topic again. Enter the first concept of your search which is: “Anaesthesia Theories” in the box as shown here. Tick the “Map Term to subject heading” box (which works much the same as the “Select Subject Terms” – this was the original though!):

There isn’t particularly a heading which matches, so you could decide to go for something a little more general – or choose “Anaesthesia Theories” as a Keyword. Or choose “Anesthesia, General” and then select a subheading… to do that, select the box next to Anesthesia, General and select “Continue”.

The following screen appears, which lists all the subheadings:
Consider selecting “Methods” and anything else?? And select Continue again…

This will return your screen to the Search History page, and you’re now ready to add your next search.

Search another synonym for Anesthesia theories….

Simply try typing in Anaesthesia… (English/Australian spelling vs American spelling) it might be worth searching this as aKeyword… this retrieves some 50,000 results!

Type it in again, but this time include subheading for Methods (similar with previous search)

Unless you can think of another synonymous word to try, select all the lines so far and Combine with OR.
Now we are ready for our next concept... **Perioperative Nursing**... so proceed with much the same:

(Make sure you have the “Map Term to Subject Heading” ticked!)

This maps to a heading exactly – so it doesn’t give us any other choices... **Tick the box** and select “Continue” and “Continue” again (we probably don’t want to select any Subheadings).

Another similar useful term here could be “Operating Room Nursing” – which also maps exactly...

“Surgical Nursing” could be another possibility... it just maps to “Perioperative Nursing”, but we could still select that as a keyword.

When you have entered everything you can think of, select all the searches which relate to our second concept and **Combine with OR**

Our Search History is starting to build up and should look something like this:
So now, we can try combining our two mega sets which each represent our two concepts with AND.

This results in a fairly manageable number of 70 articles which should all have content relating to Anaesthesia AND Perioperative Nursing.

There may be some things you might consider limiting further… to do so try selecting “Additional Limits”: 
The resulting screen provides many options for limiting our search further… possible considerations could be:

- Limit by Publication Year (available under first layer of **Limits**)

Be aware however, that too many limits may result in too few results. So you may wish to just limit to recent publication years only (last 5 or 10 years? consider, how has the field possibly changed??).

Scroll through the resulting list and look for useful articles

To find the full text click on “SFX” Another screen will pop up with available options for Full text.

For articles you don't find at UTS, don't forget you can request these on Interlibrary Loan.
Searching Tips

Using Boolean Connectors

After entering your keywords and phrases as separate searches you can combine your searches using Boolean connectors: AND, OR (and sometimes NOT).

Use and between two or more terms to retrieve only those results which contain all of the terms, i.e. the darkest shaded area in the centre of the image below.

Using Truncation: Use truncation to find any ending after the truncation symbol

E.g. midwi* will retrieve:
- midwife
- midwifery
- midwives

E.g. disab* will retrieve
- disable
- disabled
- disability
- disabilities

Using Wildcards: Wildcards replace one or no characters within a word wherever the wildcard is placed. E.g. wom?n retrieves woman or women; orthop?edic retrieves orthopaedic or orthopedic

Check spelling variations: Check for spelling variations and alternative language. Sometimes English and American spelling differs. E.g. foetus/fetus, breastfeeding/breast feeding.

Use Limit fields: Many databases provide useful limit fields to help you build your search. E.g. limiting by publication year enables you to retrieve only the latest, most up-to-date information. Note that CINAHL has an especially extensive range of limit fields.

Don’t limit to full text: Limiting your search to full text may be tempting but it will actually prevent the very useful SFX tool from working. If full text is not available in the database you’re using, click on the SFX symbol to see if full text is available in another database.
RefWorks vs Endnote

RefWorks and EndNote are software services that will assist you to collect, store, organise and use your references. Both are supported by the library and special training sessions for each are provided.

EndNote has been widely adopted by many academics and students at UTS, but RefWorks is proving to be worth considering. There are advantages and disadvantages for each including:

EndNote
- Needs to have software downloaded
- Write and Cite works very well
- PDFs can be added to each record
- Can convert RefWorks libraries into EndNote

RefWorks
- Online – no software to download except for Write and cite add in. Also means it’s easily transferable - easily used on multiple computers and you don’t need to carry your library around on a USB stick or worry about version control.
- Can link with SFX
- Can convert EndNote libraries into RefWorks
- It’s easier to share libraries on RefWorks than on EndNote.

There is another very good explanation about the differences between the two on this page: https://www.lib.uts.edu.au/question/76723/what-are-differences-between-endnote-and-refworks

Tutorials and manuals for both are available via the Library website and also the UTS Library YouTube Channel: There is a playlist for EndNote.

There are classes arranged at both City and Kuring-gai campuses each semester and you can get information about any which are coming up soon at this page: http://www.lib.uts.edu.au/events

There are also a number of online tutorials about EndNote available: http://www.lib.uts.edu.au/students/discover-your-library/referencing-and-writing/endnote/endnote-tutorials

And Tutorials for Refworks too: http://refworks.com/tutorial/

Referencing: The Faculty of Health uses Harvard (UTS) as its primary referencing style.